M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 50

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 119-20 Press/Mis.
228-228A
238

Dated 15 1 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

13

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 15th January 1872.

Read the following letters:—

No. 228. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 12th September 1871, No. 1,777.

Adverting to G. O., No. 2,116, dated 17th August 1871, I have the honour to state that, for the following reasons, I do not consider it advisable that the responsibility of appropriating funds for expenditure on Minor Works and Repairs should rest with the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

2. In the first place, officers in charge of ranges will undoubtedly experience considerable delay in obtaining an appropriation of funds for works in their respective ranges from the Controller, whose office being upwards of 300 miles from the nearest range here, it will be impossible that the necessary appropriations can be communicated to them before a fortnight from date of application.

3. Again, the Controller is not in a position to judge whether a work ought or ought not to be undertaken. He will have to depend entirely upon the sanctions accorded by Superintending Engineers to estimates laid before them by Range Officers, and on, I presume, the receipt of such estimates in his office he will then appropriate the requisite funds. This round about system of adjustment, I respectfully beg to submit, can be avoided by adhering to the method now pursued.

4. I have not experienced trouble or difficulty in the least in the assignment of funds, and from the few isolated cases of unauthorized expenditure on the part of Range Officers in this Division, I trust the Government will feel satisfied that a proper check is being exercised.

5. As regards Minor New Works, designs have to be prepared and approved of by Superintending Engineers before funds are given. Controllers cannot, therefore, in this matter allot funds any sooner than these officers can do; as regards Repairs, Agricultural, required to be countersigned by the Collectors; Military and Civil Buildings by the heads of the Departments to which they belong; roads alone can be provided for by us at once from Budget allotments. I do not see how the Controller can in such matters exercise any powers to be of use, the suggestion appears to me totally void of all practical utility.

No. 228A. From the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bazoarah, 25th August 1871, No. 64.

In reply to G. O., No. 2,116, 17th August, I have the honour to observe that, in my opinion, the proposal of the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, will cause very great confusion. There is no trouble in making appropriations when funds are abundant. The difficulty arises from our having to husband the miserable allotments we have so as to turn them to the best account.

2. Few of our works are in really safe condition, and any heavy rain causes accidents for which *immediate* provision must be made. If an officer spend Rupees 50 at once he may save an outlay of Rupees 500, and naturally he does it; he has then to consider the state of his range generally, and to arrange from what

works he can transfer the money really much wanted everywhere, so as to cause least loss or inconvenience.

3. If the pressure on him is too great he has to apply to the Superintending Engineer, who must similarly deliberate on transfers between ranges; he cannot know the progress made on works which are being executed by contract, and must refer to the various Executive Officers; hence the delay.

4. I believe the statement of Objectionable Items would be far smaller if a little more time were allowed : *e. g.*, a work is undertaken on emergency in October, perhaps finished and paid for; the bill does not reach the Superintending Engineer till November; that officer may be in camp, miles away from his office of accounts, and November may pass before he can get the information stated above as necessary, and appropriation is not made till December. This will appear as an objectionable item, no allowance being made for delay in postal communication between officers who are constantly travelling. I would suggest that the Controller should allow three months before he reports, and that then some punishment should be inflicted on defaulting officer.

No. 220. From the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bellary, 18th October 1871, No. 1,321.

I HAVE the honour, with reference to G. O., No. 2,116, dated 17th August 1871, to observe that, as far as this division is concerned, there is no necessity to modify the system at present obtaining in respect to appropriation of funds for works under any one, or on all heads of the Budget, being transferred to the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

2. The classes of items which principally appear in the "Audit Notes" or "Objectionabl Items Statements" of the Controller of Public Works Accounts are :—

I.—Expenditure incurred on account of repairing Local Fund Tools.
II.—Do. do. on emergency in repairing Irrigation Works.
III.—Do. do. from Public Works Funds, *in the first instance*, on account of customary village labor to be contributed towards the repair of Irrigation works.

3. In the first of the above cases, Range Officers are obliged to have tools repaired and then submit bills for actual expenditure. By the time these bills are sanctioned and funds appropriated the month in which the expenditure was incurred, in most instances, expires.

4. To avoid this, the Controller of Public Works Accounts suggests the division of the grants under the head amongst the ranges in each district. The allotments are so small, and, with the expenditure varying, it is not possible that any advantage can be expected by making frequent transfers from such small sums, as from 20 to 50 Rupees, from one range to another. For various other reasons also I consider it desirable that where the grants are so small the whole of the amount should be left entirely at the disposal of the Superintending Engineers, to appropriate as required.

5. In case No. II. the timely appropriation of funds is very frequently unavoidable, for it much depends upon the Range Officers themselves to apply for an appropriation at once and send in the estimates immediately after.

6. No. III. is a matter which entirely depends upon the Revenue authorities to remove if the contribution is one of money. There is always a delay in re-imbursing Government in the amount expended. This would not be the case if the ryots furnished the required labour by actually sending coolies to do so much of the work required of them under "Village labour," but the matter being one of choice with the ryots the difficulty may more or less be expected to exist, and, until removed, the money thus expended has to be shown in the "Miscellaneous Advance Account."

No. 230. From the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 29th August 1871, No. 2,268.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,116, dated 17th August 1871, I have the honour to report that, in my opinion, the transfer of the power of appropriating funds to the Controller of Public Works Accounts either permanently or temporarily does not appear to me to be advisable.

2. The system in force under which the power is vested in the Superintend-intending Engineer has, as far as I am aware, worked very satisfactorily.

3. The reason assigned for proposing a change of system is the delay which now takes place in appropriating money for works in execution, and to the necessity in consequence for entering such outlay in the statement of Objectionable Items as irregular expenditure.

4. I would point out that the power of appropriating funds, and that of according sanction to the execution of works, are vested in the same office. The separation of these powers in different authorities, the first in the Controller of Public Works Accounts, and the last in the Superintending Engineer, would prove inconvenient. The arrangement involves the anomaly of the Superintending Engineer sanctioning a work for execution without knowing whether there are funds available to meet the charge, as the lump grants would have to be made over to the Controller if that officer is to make the necessary appropriation. If the Superintending Engineer is to obtain this information from the Controller, the execution of the works would be delayed and correspondence increased.

5. As a rule, the Superintending Engineer at the same time that he sanctions a work makes the necessary appropriations of funds. The works which are in progress without allotments are invariably *emergent* works, which the Executive Engineer commences under the powers vested in him by the rules in such cases, or under the orders of Government The delay that occurs in adjusting matters is either owing to the Executive Engineer not reporting the transaction, or when he reports to there being no funds to appropriate. I do not see how the transfer of the power of allotting funds to the Controller would avoid the difficulty in that case, unless the works are stopped; but this is a matter in which the Superintending Engineer would be the fittest authority to exercise his discretion.

6. I think it is not possible altogether to prevent irregular outlay from being incurred. Endeavours should be made, of course, to reduce it to a minimum; but the plan proposed will not effect this, while, on the other hand, it would lead to anomalies and inconvenience. Executive Officers and Superintending Engineers should be held responsible for outlay which is made in an irregular manner.

No. 231. From the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Cuddalore, 21st August 1871, No. 112.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,116, of 17th instant, I have the honour to state my opinion that there need be neither delay on the part of Executive Engineers in seeking appropriations, nor of Superintending Engineers in making them, and I would therefore defer the inauguration of a new order of things until such time as I am sensible of the inconvenience and delay of works alluded to by the Accountant-General, Public Works Department.

No. 232. From the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tanjore, 1st December 1871, No. 752.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,116, dated 17th August 1871, I have the honour to report that I do not see any necessity for a transfer of power of appropriation for expenditure on Minor Works and Repairs from Superintending Engineer to the Controller, and I believe that such a transfer would only lead to unnecessary correspondence.

2. I am not aware that appropriations for sanctioned works are delayed wilfully or through carelessness in this office. There are two reasons which are generally given in explanation of want of appropriation in the statement of Objectionable Items, and it rarely happens that there is any failure of appropriation for other reasons : the first is "the work is emergent, and to avoid loss to Government it was commenced in anticipation of sanction of estimate," for this there is no remedy. The second is "funds have been appropriated in Superintending Engineer's return for last month," which return has not reached the Controller before the Range Officer's Progress Report ; this may be avoided by greater punctuality in submitting appropriation returns, and to this I will give attention.

No. 233. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Seroovaloor, 22nd August 1871, No. 99.

IN reply to G. O., No. 2,116, of 17th August 1871, I have the honour to report that I see no reason whatever why the duty of allotting funds under the head of "Minor New Works" or "Repairs" should be transferred from the Superintending Engineers to the Controller ; to my mind such a proceeding would be likely to cause much confusion and a great deal of inconvenience, let alone delay.

2. In regard to paragraph 2 of the Accountant-General's letter in my division, such matters give me no trouble, as on sanctioning an estimate I always at once allot the funds required.

3. I think, however, that the powers of sanction by Superintending Engineers might, in regard to "Minor New Works," with advantage be increased to the same amount under all heads as at present obtains with reference to Minor New Works, Agricultural.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 15th January 1872.

No. 234. From the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 30th August 1871, No. 1,975.

In reference to G. O. of the 17th August 1871, No. 2,116, calling for a report on the suggestion of the Accountant-General that the duty of appropriating funds for Minor Works and Repairs should be delegated to some one else, such as the Controller, I have the honour to state that the Controller not being, in this Presidency, a departmental officer, the transfer to that officer, as proposed, of the duty of allotting funds would only tend to hamper this department. If, with the Superintending Engineer on the spot and the details of the work before him delays occur, how much greater would these not be were the allotments made by the Controller at a distance from the division. It appears to me that the executive officers are clearly the right parties to whom the duty in question should be transferred.

2. I would suggest that on the commencement of an official year the Budget grant for Minor Works and Repairs be allotted by the Superintending Engineer in lump sums, to the several ranges in this division, to be appropriated by Range Officers as occasion may require. Executive Officers must be of course, as a rule, better judges of the requirements of their ranges than the Superintending Engineer, and it is evidently advisable therefore that they should be empowered to make the necessary appropriations from funds at their disposal for the various works, the estimates for which have been duly sanctioned by competent authority.

No. 235. From the Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Luckadie, 28th August 1871, No. 416.

With reference to G. O., No. 2,116, dated 17th instant, I have the honour to reply that I consider it will be better not to alter the existing arrangement; omissions to make appropriation can scarcely be so frequent as to cause much inconvenience, and the delegating the power to the Controller would, I imagine, cause more in another way, unless it is proposed also to delegate the power of sanctioning estimates.

No. 236. Circular from the Government of India.

(Here enter No. 78, dated 23rd December 1871.)

No. 237. Order thereon, 15th January 1872, No. 119.

ACCOUNT, No. 23.

Ordered that the following letter be sent:—

(Here enter No. 120, dated 15th January 1872.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE, Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, *15th January* 1872.

No. 238.

No. 120.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT, No. 24.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Circulars of the Government of India under date the 22nd July 1871, No. 41, and 23rd December 1871, No. 78, referring for the opinion of this Government a Note by the Accountant-General of the Public Works Department, suggesting that the officers who are at present responsible for making appropriations for Minor Works and Repairs should have the option of transferring that responsibility to some other officer such as the Controller of Public Works Accounts. The Superintending Engineers having been called upon for an expression of their views on the proposal, I am directed to forward the accompanying copies of their replies, from which it will be observed that those officers are unanimously of opinion that the contemplated transfer is objectionable. Under the system in force in this Presidency a grant is made to each district from the Reserve (Minor Works allotment) at the commencement of the official year under the various heads of service to meet the outlay on Minor New Works estimated to cost less than Rupees 500* each. These grants are absolutely at the disposal of the Superintending Engineers, and it rests with those officers to utilize them to the best advantage. The balance of the Reserve is held at the disposal of Government, who, on a review of the demands for works throughout the Presidency, make appropriations according to the means at command, and the importance and urgency of the works. The grant for Repairs, as remarked by the Accountant-General, is at the disposal of Superintending Engineers.

* Rupees 750 in the case of Agricultural Works.

2. Under the very stringent orders of the Government of India care is taken to enforce the rule that no work shall be commenced until the estimate for it has been sanctioned and an appropriation made, and this Government are not aware that ordinarily there has been any delay in making assignments for works proposed to be undertaken. If any such delay on the part of Government at any time appears to occur it is to be attributed to the difficulty of finding funds. When the Reserve is exhausted the Government are compelled to wait till savings become available, and to watch the expenditure in each district as compared with grants, reported in monthly statements submitted by the Controller, in order that such portions of the allotments for specific works which it is probable will remain unutilized during the year may be diverted to works for which funds are needed.

3. It is to the Superintending Engineers that the Government must look for the most advantageous appropriation of the assignments to their respective divisions, and their responsibility in this respect, more especially when prompt action is

necessary to avert disaster or to repair damages, cannot be enforced if the duty of making appropriations does not rest with them. Apart from these considerations the work of the Controller's Office has of late so greatly increased that it is inexpedient to burden it with any additional duties, and under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the system now in operation should remain undisturbed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION.

DOWLAISHWARUM, 12th September 1871

No. 1777

From

Major J. F. Fischer R.E.

Acting Superintending Engineer

1st Division

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.

Secretary to Government D. P. W.

MADRAS

SIR,

Adverting to G.O. No 2116 dated 17th August 1871, I have the honor to state, that for the following reasons I do not consider it advisable that the responsibility of appropriating funds for expenditure on Minor Works and Repairs, should rest with the Controller of P.W. Accounts.

2. In the first place, Officers in Charge of Ranges will undoubtedly experience con:siderable delay in obtaining an appropriation of funds for works in their respective Ranges, from the Controller, whose Office being upwards of 300 miles from the nearest Range, it will then be impossible that the necessary appropriations can be communicated to them, before a fort:night from date of application.

3/. Again, the Controller is not in a position to judge, whether a work ought, or

or ought not to be undertaken. He will have to depend entirely upon the sanctions accorded by Superintending Engineers to Estimates laid before them by Range Officers, and on, I presume, the receipt of such Estimates in his Office, he will then appropriate the requisite funds. This roundabout system of adjustment, I respectfully beg to submit, can be avoided by adhering to the method now pursued.

4/. I have not experienced trouble or difficulty in the least in the assignment of funds, and ~~—~~ from the few isolated cases of unauthorized expenditure on the part of Range Officers in this Division, I trust the Government will feel satisfied that a proper check is being exercised.

5 As regards Minor New works, designs have to be prepared and approved of by Superintending Engineers before funds are given. Controllers cannot therefore in this matter allot funds any sooner than these Officers can do; as regards repairs - Agricultural, require to be countersigned by the Collectors; Military and Civil Buildings, by the heads of

the

of the Departments to which they belong - these alone can be provided for by us at once from Budget allotments. I do not see how the Controller can in such matters exercise any powers to be of use, the suggestion appears to me totally void of all practical utility.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obd.t Servant

Geo: T. Tiechurst Major R.E.
A.G. Supt Engineer 1st Dn

Pro 17 Augt /71 N 206-207

P. W. 1871 Dept
Pro: of Govt Jany
No. 4241.

From
Major J. F. Fischer R.E.
Actg. Superintending Engr 1st D.

To
Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government
D P W
Madras.

Dated 12 September 1871.
Received 8 No. 1777

Informs that for reasons stated he does not consider it advisable that the res=ponsibility of appropriating funds for works should rest with the Controller of Public Works Accounts

No. 119 & 120 16 Jany /72

No 228

D 15 Decr /71

No. 64

Superintending Engrs Office
2nd Dn Bazorah
25th August 1871

From
Colonel F. J. Moberly R.E.
Superintending Engineer 2nd Dn

To
Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government
Dept. Public Works.

Sir

In reply to G. O. No 2116. 17th August I have the honor to observe that in my opinion the proposal of the Accountant General P.W.D. will cause very great confusion. - There is no trouble in making appropriations when funds are abundant. The difficulty arises from our having to husband the miserable allotments we have so as to turn them to the best account.

2 Few of our works are in really safe condition and any heavy rain causes accidents for which immediate provision must be made. - If an Officer spend Rs. 50 at once he may save an outlay of Rs 500. and naturally he does it. he has then to consider the state of his range generally and to arrange from what works he can transfer the money really much wanted every where, so as to cause least loss or inconvenience.

3 If the pressure on him is too great he has to apply to the Superintending Engineer, who must similarly deliberate on transfers between ranges. he cannot know the progress

made on works which are being executed by Contract, & must refer to the various Executive Officers - hence the delay -

4. I believe the statement of objectionable items would be far smaller if a little more time were allowed. E.g. a work is undertaken on Emergency in October; perhaps finished & paid for - the bill does not reach the Supd. Engineer till November; that Officer may be in Camp, miles away from his Office of Accounts, & November may pass before he can get the information stated above as necessary and appropriation is not made till December - This will appear as an objectionable item - no allowance being made for delay in postal communication between Officers who are constantly travelling. I would suggest that the Controller should allow 3 months before he reports and that then some punishment should be inflicted on defaulting Officer.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obt Servant

H. Moberly Col R.E.

Supy Engineer 2nd Divn

Pro 17 August/71 No 206
207

C No 4437/71

No 2281

C 15 Decr/71

P. W. 1871 Dept
Pro of 9 Octr 71 Army

Recd. No 4092
31-8-71

From
The Supdg. Engineer
2d Division

To
The Secretary to Govt.
D. P. W.

Dated 25 August 1871

Received 31 Augt/71.

Observes that the proposal of the Accountant General P. W. D. for delegating the power of Appropriation to the Controller or other Offi-cers will cause great Confu-sion while the present Course is a good one when enough funds and Suggests that under Cer-tain Reasons the Controller should allow 3 Months time before he reports the objection-able items —

No 119/120 - 15 Jany/72

No. 1321 Superintending Engineer's Office.
3rd Division.
Bellary 18 October 1871

17B

From,

The Superintending Engineer
3rd Division.

To,

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort Saint George

closures. —

Sir,

I have the honor with reference to G. O. No. 2116 dated 17th August 1871, to observe that, as far as this Division is concerned, there is no necessity to modify the system at present obtaining in respect to appropriation of funds for works under any one or on all heads of the Budget being transferred to the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

2. The classes of items which principally appear in the "Audit Notes" or "Objectionable Items Statements" of the Controller of P. W. Accounts are:—

I. Expenditure incurred on account of repairing Local Fund Tools.

II. Expenditure incurred on emergency in repairing Irrigation Works.

III

III. Expenditure incurred from Public Works funds, in the first instance, on account of Customary Village labor to be contributed towards the repair of Irrigation works.

3. In the first of the above cases, Range Officers are obliged to have tools repaired, and then submit bills for actual expenditure. By the time these bills are sanctioned and funds appropriated the month in which the expenditure was incurred, in most instances, expires.

4. To avoid this, the Controller of P.W. Accounts suggests the division of the Grants under the head amongst the Ranges in each District. The allotments are so small and with the expenditure varying, it is not possible that any advantage can be expected by making frequent transfers from such small sums as from 20 to 50 Rs, from one Range to another. For various other reasons also, I consider it desirable that where the Grants are so small the whole of the amount should be left entirely at the disposal of the Superintending Engineers to appropriate as required.

5. In case No. II the timely appropriation of funds is very frequently unavoidable for it

much

much depends upon the Range Officers themselves to apply for an appropriation at once and send in the Estimates immediately after.

6. No. III is a matter which entirely depends upon the Revenue authorities to remove if the Contribution is one of money. There is always a delay in re-imbursing Government in the amount expended. This would not be the case if the ryots furnished the required labor by actually sending Coolies to do so much of the work required of them under "Village labor" but the matter being one of choice with the ryots, the difficulty may more or less be expected to exist and until removed, the money thus expended has to be shewn in the "Miscellaneous Advance Account".

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servant
[signature] Lt. Col. R.E.
Supdg. Engineer 3d. Dn.

Pro 17th Aug/71 No. 206-207

P.W. 1871-72. Deptt
Pro. of Govt. for Reguy.

From, No. 4979

The Superintending Engineer
3rd Division.

To,

The Secretary to Government.
Public Works Department.
Fort Saint George.

No. 1321

Dated 18th }
Received 20th } October 1871.

Nos. 119/120 - 15th Jany/72

Deprecates any modification in the system at present obtaining in respect to Deputy Engineers only appropriating funds for works sanctioned for execution

No. 229

C 15th Decr/71

No. 2268. Supg Engrs Office 4th Dn.
Madras 29th August 1871.

From

Colonel C. J. Wilkieson R.E.
Supg Engineer 4th Division

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No. 2116 dated 17th August 1871, I have the honor to report that in my opinion, the transfer of the power of appropriating funds to the Controller of Public Works Accounts either permanently or temporarily does not appear to me to be advisable.

2 The system in force under which the power is vested in the Superintending Engineer, has as far as I am aware worked very satisfactorily.

3 The reason assigned for proposing a change of system is the delay which now takes place

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in appropriating money for works in execution and to the necessity in consequence for entering such outlay in the statement of objectionable items as irregular expenditure.

4 I would point out that the power of appropriating funds and that of according sanction to the execution of works are vested in the same Office. The separation of these powers in different authorities, the first in the Controller of Public Works Accounts, and the last in the Superintending Engineer would prove inconvenient. The arrangement involves the anomaly of the Superintending Engineer sanctioning a work for execution without knowing whether there are funds available to meet the charge, as the lump grants, would have to be made over to the Controller, if that Officer is to make the necessary appropriation. If the Superintending

23B 8

Superintending Engineer is to obtain this information from the Controller the execution of the works would be delayed and correspondence increased.

5 As a rule, the Superintending Engineer at the same time that he sanctions a work, makes the necessary appropriations of funds. The works which are in progress without allotments, are invariably emergent works, which the Executive Engineer commences under the powers vested in him by the rules in such cases, or under the Orders of Government. The delay that occurs in adjusting matters is either owing to the Executive Engineer not reporting the transaction, or when he reports to there being no funds to appropriate. I do not see how the transfer of the power of allotting funds to the Controller would avoid

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the difficulty in that case, unless the works are stopped, but this is a matter in which the Superintending Engineer would be the fittest authority to exercise his discretion -

6 I think it is not possible altogether to prevent irregular outlay from being incurred - Endeavours should be made of course to reduce it to minimum, but the plan proposed will not effect this, while in the other hand it would lead to anomalies and inconvenience - Executive Officers and Superintending Engineers should be held responsible for outlay which is made in an irregular manner -

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

(Signed) Colonel R. E.
Supg Engineer &c &c.

S.

17th Aug/71 No 206-207

P. W. 1871 Dept
Appx. offcort for Copy

From No. 4062.

The Supg Engineer
4th Division

To

The Secy. to Govt.
P. W. D.

Dated 29th
Recd 30th Augt /71

No. 2268.

Giving his opinion that the transfer of appropriating funds to the Controller of Public Works Accounts either permanently or temporarily does not appear to be advisable.

No 119 & 120. 15 Jany /72

No. 230

Dept 71

28B

No. 112.

Supg: Engineers Office, 5th Divn.
Cuddalore, 21st August 1871.

From,

Captain James Vertue R.E.,
Offg: Supg: Engineer, 5th Divn.

To,

Colonel J. Carpendale, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 2116 of 17th Instant, I have the honor to state my opinion that there need be neither delay on the part of Executive Engineers in seeking appropriations, nor of Superintending Engineers in making them, and I would therefore defer the inauguration of a new order of things until such time as I am sensible of the inconvenience, and delay of works alluded to by the Accountant General, P. W. Deptt.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant.-

James Vertue Captain R.E.
Officiating Supg: Engineer, 5th Divn.

Pro 17th Aug /71 No 206 - 207

P. W. 1871 Dept

Pro: off. [illegible]

From ... No 3972.

The Supg: Engineer,

5th Division

To, The Secy. to Governmt.

P. W. Departt.

Dated 21st } August 1871.

Recd. 24th }

No 112.

Expenditure on Minor Works &c. ——

Stating that he is not of opinion that any change is needed in the present system of making appropriations for Expenditure on Minor Works & Repairs.

Nos 119 & 120 15 Jany /72

No 231

C 15 Decr /71

No. 752.

Superintg. Engr's Office 6th Divn.
Tanjur 1st December 1871

297B

From

Captain J. O. Hasted R.E.
Offg. Superintg. Engineer 6th Divn.

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government
P. W. Department

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 2116 dated 17th August 1871, I have the honor to report that I do not see any necessity for a transfer of power of appropriation for expenditure on Minor Works and repairs, from Superintending Engineer to the Controller, and I believe that such a transfer would only lead to unnecessary correspondence.

2 ——— I am not aware that appropriations for sanctioned works are delayed wilfully or through carelessness in this office. There are 2 reasons which are generally given in explanation of want of appropriation, in the statements of objectionable Items,

Items, and it rarely happens that there is any failure of appropriation for other reasons, the first is, 'the work is emergent and to avoid loss to Government, it was commenced in anticipation of Sanction of Estimate'. for this there is no remedy – the second is 'Funds have been appropriated in Superintending Engineer's return for last month' which return has not reached the Controller before the Range Officers' progress report'. this may be avoided by greater punctuality in submitting appropriation Returns and to this I will give attention

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
J. G. Cattell Captain R.E.
Offg. Supg. Engineer 6th Divn

318

Public Works 1871 Department
From Pri. off. for Slavy
No. 5/31

The Offg. Supg. Engineer
6th Division

To

The Secretary to Govt.
P. W. Depart.

Dated 1st
Received 4th } December 1871

No. 752.

Replies to G. O. No 2116 dated 17th August 1871, relative to the question of transferring power of appropriation for expenditure on Minor works and repairs from Superintending Engineers to the Controller.

Nos 119 & 120 - 15 Jany/72

No 252

15 Dec/71

15

No. 99 Supg Engineer's Office 7th Dn
Camp Serooratoor 22nd August /71

33B

From

Lt Colonel W. Farewell S.C.
Dy Supg Engineer
7th Division

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government
P.W. Department.

Sir,

In reply to G.O. No. 2116 of 17th Augt/71, I have the honor to report that I see no reason whatever why the duty of allotting funds under the head of "Minor New Works" or "Repairs" should be transferred from the Supg Engineers to the Controller; to my mind such a proceeding would be likely to cause much confusion and a great deal of inconvenience, let alone delay.—

2. In regards to Para 2 of the Accountt. General's letter, in my Division such matters give me no trouble, as on sanctioning an Estimate I always at once allot the funds required.—

3. I think however that the powers of sanction by

Superintending Engineers might in regards to Minor New Works with advantage be increased to the same amount under all heads as at present obtains with reference to Minor New Works Agricultural.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedt. Servt.

[signature] Lt. Col. S.C.
Ag. Supg. Engineer 7th Dn.

Pro 17th Cons/71 Nd 206-207

P.W. 1871 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for Jany

From,

No. 4917

The Supdg Engineer,
7th Division

to The Secretary to Govt.,
D.P.W. Madras

Dated 22d }
Recd: 28 } August/71

No 99

Enclosures none

Reports his opinion on the subject of transferring the duty of allotting funds from the Supdg Engineers to the Controller with reference to G.O. No 2116 of 17th Augt 1871.

No 23 d

C 15 Dec/71

Nos 119 & 120 - 15 Jany/72

No. 1975 Supg. Engineer's Office 8th Dn.
Madura 30th August 1871

From,

Lieut. Col. R. A. Roberts R.E.
Superintending Engineer 8th Dn.

To, Col. J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government
P. W. Department.

Sir,

In reference to G. O of the 17th August 1871, No. 2116, calling for a report on the suggestion of the Accountant General that, the duty of appropriating funds for minor works and repairs should be delegated to some one else such as the Controller, I have the honor to state that the Controller not being, in this Presidency, a Departmental Officer, the transfer to that Officer, as proposed, of the duty of allotting funds would only tend to hamper this Department. If with the Supg.

Engineer on the spot & the details of the work before him delays occur, how much greater would these not be were the allotments made by the Controller, at a distance from the Division:- It appears to me that Executive Officers are clearly the right parties to whom the duty in question should be transferred.

2. I would suggest that on the commencement of an Official year, the Budget grant for minor works and repairs be allotted by the Superintending Engineer in lump sums, to the several Ranges in this Division, to be appropriated by Range Officers as occasion may require. Executive Officers must be of course, as a rule, better judges of the requirements of their Ranges, than the Superintending Engineer, and it is evidently advisable therefore that they should be empowered

to

to make the necessary appropriations from funds at their disposal for the various works, the Estimates for which have been duly sanctioned by competent authority.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
Reco. J. Roberts Lieut. Col. R.E.
Superintending Engineer &c. &c.

Pro 15th Augt / 71 No 206 . 207

Pro: of Govt. for Sept 1871 Dept

Public Works 1975

From No 4137

The Supg. Engr 8th Divn

To

The Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Dated 30th August,

Recd: 2d Septr /71 1871

States that the duty of appropriating funds for minor works & Repairs should be transferred to Executive Officers instead of to the Controll

No 234

Special Executive Engineer's Office
Lucknadie Cocanada 28 August
1871.-

41/B

No. 416.-

From,

The Special Executive Engineer
in charge Cocanada.-

To,

The Secretary to Government
Department Public Works.
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 2116 dated 17th Instant, I have the honor to reply that I consider it will be better not to alter the existing arrangement; omissions to make appropriation can scarcely be so frequent as to cause much inconvenience, and the delegating the power to the Controller would I imagine cause ~~much~~ more in another way, unless it is proposed also to delegate the power of sanctioning Estimates.-

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obed. Servant.
R. L. S. Keene Major
Spl. Ex. Engr Cocanada.-

Rev 17 Augt /71 No 206
207

P.W. 1871 Dept
Proceedings for Jany
From, No 4067.
The Special Exe Engineer
Vizagapatam

To,
The Secretary to Govt
P. W. Dept
Madras.

No 416.
Dated 28th August 1871.
Received 30th Augt /71.

Replies that the existing arrangement of making appropriation may not be altered.

Nos 119 & 120 15 Jany /72

No 235

C 15 Dec/71

No. 119 Public Works Departt.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

From the Supy. Engr. 1 Dn.	(H.C. No. 1717 of 12 September/71)
" " " 2d Dn.	(H.C. No. 64 of 25th August/71)
" " " 3d Dn.	(H.C. No. 1321 of 18th October/71)
" " " 4th Dn.	(H.C. No. 2268 of 29th Augt./71)
" " " 5th Dn.	(H.C. No. 112 of 21st August/71)
" " " 6th Dn.	(H.C. No. 752 of 1 December/71)
" " " 7th Dn.	(H.C. No. 994 of 22 August/71)
" " " 8th Dn.	(H.C. No. 945 of 30th Augt./71)
" the Special Executive Engr. Wynaad	(H.C. No. 4169 of 28th August/71)
" Govt. of India	H.E. No. 78 of 23d Decr./71

No. 120

The Secretary to the
Govt. of India.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Circulars of the Govt. of India under date the 22d July 1871, No. 41, 23d Decr/71. No. 78 referring for the opinion of this Government a note by the Accountant General of the Public Works Department, suggesting that the Officers who are at present responsible for making appropriations for minor works

and repairs should have the option of transferring that responsibility to some other Officer such as the Controller of Public Works Accounts. The Superintending Engineers having been called upon for an expression of their views on the proposal, I am directed to forward the accompanying copies of their replies from which it will be observed that those Officers are unanimously of opinion that the contemplated transfer is objectionable. Under the system in force in this Presidency a grant is made to each District from the Reserve (Minor Works allotment) at the commencement of the

45B

Official year under the various heads of Service to meet the outlay on minor new works estimated to cost less than Rs:[+] 500 each. These grants are absolutely at the disposal of the Superintending Engineers and it rests with those Officers to utilize them to the best advantage. The balance of the Reserve is held at the disposal of Government, who, on a review of the demands for works throughout the Presidency make appropriations according to the means at command, and the importance and urgency of the works. The grant for repairs, as remarked by the Accountant General is at the disposal of

+ Rs 750 in the case of Agricultural works.

Superintending Engineers.

Under the very stringent orders of the Govt. of India care is taken to enforce the rule that no work shall be commenced until the estimate for it has been sanctioned and an appropriation made, and this Government are not aware that ordinarily there has been any delay in making assignments for works proposed to be undertaken. If any such delay on the part of Government at any time appears to occur it is to be attributed to the difficulty of finding funds. When the Reserve is exhausted the Government is compelled to wait till savings become available, and to watch the expenditure in each

District as compared with grants, reported in monthly statements submitted by the Controller, in order that such portions of the allotments for specific works which it is probable will remain unutilized during the year may be diverted to works for which funds are needed.

It is to the Superintending Engineers that the Government must look for the most advantageous appropriation of the assignments to their respective Divisions, and their responsibility in this respect, more especially when prompt action is necessary ~~to~~ to avert disaster or to repair damages, cannot be

enforced if the duty of making appropriations does not rest with them. Apart from these considerations the work of the Controller's Office has of late so greatly increased that it is inexpedient to burden it with any additional duties, and under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the system now in operation should remain undisturbed.

G.

12 Decr.

Despd. 17/1/72 with 6 copies of Gov. 119 of 1872

50

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Submitting the opinion of the Chief Engineer on the proposal to transfer the power of appropriating funds for minor works & repairs to the Controller of P. W. Acct.—

Nos 4241, 4092, 4979, 4062, 3972, 5731, 4017, 4137, 4067 & 127

Govt of 1872 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Secretary to the Govt of India

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 15th Jany 1872 No. 119 & 120

Nos. 228 @ 237 & 238

Funds. Papers orders on letters from the Engr. reporting on the ~~suggestion~~ proposal of the Govt of India for the transfer of the power of appropriating funds for minor works & repairs to the Controller of P. W. Accts.—